

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079839

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. ARE YOU PLANNING TO GIVE GOR AN UPDATED REPRESENTATION LIST AS OF MARCH 31, 1978? IF YOU ARE, CAN YOU GIVE US SOME KIND OF ANALYSIS OF THE NAMES OF THE LIST? WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW, IDEALLY, IS: WHAT PROPORTION OF NAMES ON THE MOST CURRENT LIST REPRESENTS NEW CASES? WHAT PROPORTION IS ONE YEAR OLD OR MORE? LIKEWISE, FOR MARRIAGE CASES.

2. THE REASON WE NEED TO KNOW AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IS THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF A LETTER FROM 66 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PRESIDENT. THEY REFER (AND I AM QUOTING LIBERALLY) TO THE MAY 8, 1977 LETTER FROM 55 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHICH INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ROMANIA. THEY BELIEVE CEAUSESCU'S VISIT WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO EXAMINE THE ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING THESE PRACTICES -- ALLEGATIONS WHICH ARE BASED ON GOMA'S RECENT STATEMENTS
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ABOUT CEAUSESCU'S POLICY OF ROMANIANIZATION AND KIRALY'S COMPLAINTS ABOUT NATIONALITY POLICIES. THEY SAY THAT, HAVING GRANTED ROMANIA TRADE BENEFITS AND HUMANITARIAN

ASSISTANCE, WE SHOULD IMPRESS ON THE ROMANIANS THAT THEIR PERFORMANCE UNDER THE EMIGRATION PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE HUMANI-

TARIAN PROVISIONS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT HAS BEEN FAR FROM SATISFACTORY. THEY STATE FURTHER THAT ALTHOUGH EMIGRATION TO THE FRG INCREASED BETWEEN 1976 AND 1977, EMIGRATION TO THE US DECREASED FROM 1339 IN FY 1976 TO 1059 IN FY 1977; AND EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL DECREASED FROM 2051 IN FY 1976 TO 1325 IN FY 1977. IN ADDITION, APPLYING TO EMIGRATE REMAINS A LENGTHY, BURDENSOME AND UNCERTAIN PROCESS. THREE HUNDRED SIXTY CASES WERE PENDING ON THE US REP. LIST AT THE BEGINNING OF 1978. THE LETTER CONCLUDES BY URGING THE PRESIDENT TO ENCOURAGE CEAUSESCU AND THE GOR TO DISCUSS THESE PROBLEMS CANDIDLY AND FORCEFULLY, BEGINNING A DIALOGUE WHICH MIGHT CONTINUE BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AFTER CEAUSESCU RETURNS TO ROMANIA. AMONG THE SIGNATORIES ARE FENWICK, DODD, ROSENTHAL, EILBERG, SOLARZ, FASCELL, FRASER, GOLDWATER, PEPPER, MIKULSKI, RODINO, DRINAN, ROUSSELOT, KEMP, ROE, HORTON, HARRIS, WEISS, CRANE, ETC.

3. IN OUR REPLY I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW THAT THE FIGURES ARE GOOD RATHER THAN DISAPPOINTING AND THAT MOST OF THE 360 CASES ARE RELATIVELY NEW ARRIVALS ON THE REP. LIST - THUS THE GOR IS SOLVING MOST CASES. IF YOU CAN ALSO GIVE US BALANCED LANGUAGE DRAWN FROM CEAUSESCU'S SPEECH TO THE NATIONALITY COUNCILS ADMITTING THE EXISTENCE OF PROBLEMS AND SAYING SOMETHING WILL BE DONE ABOUT THEM, THIS WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL. WE WOULD ALSO SAY THAT THE

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SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE RAISED (ALTHOUGH RIGHT NOW WE ARE IN CONFLICT WITH D/HA ABOUT WHETHER THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF SHOULD SPECIFICALLY RAISE THE HUNGARIAN MINORITY QUESTION, OUR VOTES IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND THE RAUTA CASE).

4. FROM A BELGRADE CABLE, I NOTE THAT CONGRESSMAN TED WEISS (SEE PARA 2 ABOVE), WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION WHICH RETURNED THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN TO HUNGARY AND IS THE ONLY MEMBER OF CONGRESS BORN IN HUNGARY, IS PLANNING A TRIP ACROSS THE BORDER TO ROMANIA ON MARCH 31. HE IS WITH ROSTENKOWSKI'S CODEL WHICH IS SPENDING LESS THAN TWO DAYS IN BELGRADE AND A DAY IN DUBROVNIK. DOUBT YOU CAN DO MUCH ABOUT IT. COOPER

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